



# Central Texas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster

COOPERATION | COMMUNICATION | COORDINATION | COLLABORATION

## Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2019

### Attendees:

Alan Ford – Presb Church USA  
Andrea Forte – Central TX Action Response (+3)  
Annie Harton – TARG  
Betty Learned - Volunteer  
Bob Andrews – Austin Bapt Assn DRT  
Cathy Norman – Ch of Scientology DR  
Charles Baker – Crestview Disaster Ministry  
Ching-Chiang Liu – Tzu Chi Found  
Christine Brown – Travis Cty OEM  
Dan Knauft – Red Cross  
Denise Blok – Central TX Food Bank  
Dick Perrone – TARG  
Ed Sackett – Mission Presbytery/PDA  
Elizabeth Wills – BR3T  
Jamey Bellisle – Travis Cty HHS

Jim Street - UMCOR  
Joe DeBlanc (Capt) – Salvation Army  
Julia Butler - DSHS  
Karsten Darden – Central TX Food Bank  
Kye Tavernier – Austin Public Health  
Matt Bisacca – Red Cross  
Mike Jones – Hays County  
Pierre Nguyen – Texas Conservation Corps  
Roger Wines – ARES/REACT  
Sara Record – DRTx  
Shay Mooney – United Way  
Shelby Thomas – OneStar Foundation  
Taylor Wolter – OneStar Foundation  
Terri Deans – Central TX Action Response  
Tim Dale – ADRN

Meeting called to order at 10:02

Introductions were made around the room.

### Recent Flooding:

- This past weekend, we had a number of storms impacting the Central Texas area.
- ADRN had a call from one family – flooding in backyard. They are working with Red Cross to get information on other homes that were impacted. Not overly large disaster.
- 211 hasn't received any calls.
- Flooding was mostly in the Taylor area.

### Approval of minutes:

Alan Ford – item 6 under announcements – Jim **ELLOR**, State VOAD Emotional and Spiritual Care.

Change name from Dick to **Alan**.

Texas **Conservation** Corp – not conversation.

Motion to approve with edits: Alan Ford. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Shay Mooney.

Minutes were approved unanimously.

### New Business:

Elections – Secretary position is up for re-election. Dan asked for anyone who would be interested. No one came forth. Cathy nominated Sara Record for 2<sup>nd</sup> term. Bob Andrews 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.

Membership Chair – in 2<sup>nd</sup> year of 2<sup>nd</sup> term. Would there be someone who could help her out? No one came forth. She is willing to continue.

### **Bylaws Revisions:**

Bylaws revisions were distributed via email prior to the meeting. The redlined version was put on the screen and the following points were discussed:

- Why is Lee County not included in Article I?
  - It never has been there before. Instead it states “jurisdiction of CTXVOAD is Travis County with support for...”
- Membership categories were changed from “Partner” to “Member” and from “Associate” to “Associate Member.”
- Cathy Norman, membership chair, discussed a list of current “Partners” who would become “Members” automatically. She would cull the entire list of all current participants and place in appropriate new categories based on guidelines and present in June, if Bylaws are approved.
- Cathy expressed a concern about going to COAD model of all people voting. While no government entity has applied, they usually are advised not to vote on things. Sara suggested asking for Abstentions if Bylaws are approved, so they could be counted in some category.
- Betty Learned: Under IV.B., Conditions of Membership, we use the word “objectives” but never list them. Suggested we change this word to “principles.”
- Betty also suggested adding the following wording to II. Mission: “without discrimination to people affected by disasters.”
- Alan Ford noted that we needed to add Associate Member to IV.B. Conditions of Membership to be consistent.
- Note was made that other amendments can be suggested in the future.

Motion was made to approve the Bylaws with the aforementioned changes: Betty Learned.

2<sup>nd</sup>: Dick Perrone. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Matrix:**

Dan showed the matrix (which was also emailed prior to the meeting).

- Suggestion made to add a tab with more extensive information. Shay made up a form about information we needed. Do people think this would be beneficial? Information given would have to be static.
- Suggestion was made to copy colored tabs. If you have an “X” in a particular column, we could provide more information in a tab. Crestview: If linked to web page of the organization, that would be helpful. Additional tabs should have hot links. Language spoken is important.
- Shay: Info sheet was developed through a lens of what 211 asks. Keeping it simple is best. If there are things that are always relevant, we would love that information at 211.
- Ed Sackett – Mission Presbytery. Put the links on the RESOURCES tabs. All liked this idea.
- Christine: We are trying to change the face of VOAD in the EOC. We want VOAD to be the coordinating body. We don’t want the info where WE contact.

### **Action Items:**

1. Complete Matrix. Create tabs, adding links. Dan Knauft will make this happen.

### **Collaborative Recruiting Fair:**

- Suggestion has been made to have a Fair so that organizations could benefit from shared labor.

- Biggest issues is advertising – will take massive advertising campaign.
- Would have to do down the road so we had time to plan. Betty suggested doing at the start of hurricane season with a PSA to give to churches to ramp up. Or general brochure.
- Charles Baker – partner with someone who is already having an event.
- Ed: Better to tag on than create your own. Compassion program, for example.
- VOAD could send out notices of fairs that are going on and get people to attend. If you have upcoming such events, pass info to Shelby so it can be on our website calendar.
- There is a Preparedness Fair in September for Hays County....
- Gear recruitment more towards volunteering fairs.
- As we develop materials, have someone reach out to the big corporations to see if they want to volunteer. Or make our resources known to them in case they have employees that want to work with an organization.

### **Updates:**

Blanco River Regional Recovery Team: Currently don't have any active disasters. In preparedness phase. Crestview thanked them for recovery they are doing at highland Lakes.

TARG: Finishing 3 properties as result of October. Meeting with City; funded balance of \$. Will do the last 78 buyouts in upper Onion Creek area

MARC Workgroup: Have been meeting since last summer. Have come up with a detailed policies and procedures about how MARCs will operate. Should be finished by April – about 92 pages. Should be signed off by Eric Carter. Wonderful collaborative effort. Thanks to all.

Communications Group: Christine, Pierre, Robert V., Roger Wines, Shelby, Tim Dale.

- How can we improve our communications before, after and during disasters? We've had two meetings so far.
- Looking at EOC staffing. Have identified some folks who can work at the EOC. Is in an individual or an organization who has promised someone? We will continue to look at this.
- What are our duties at EOC?
- Should have some recommendations by June meeting.
- Tim: Expanding the matrix list will be helpful to these people.
- Presbytery is developing an app to communicate more effectively – interested in developers who could help. Team Rubicon has something similar – they go through Everbridge.

### **Case Management:**

Have a subcommittee to the MARC Group – working on what case management and what this looks like in a MARC. How do we create a way to not duplicate services among providers? How do we transition into the community to develop case management?

### **Communications:**

Shelby has been making changes to VOAD website. Check it out: <http://www.centraltexasvoad.org>  
Calendar has lots of changes. Trainings are there, too. Austin area event.

Ed Sackett: What about putting a space where volunteers are needed around the state? Collaborate with other VOADS. Would require people to send information.

Shay: It's a good idea – would be good to have it on the State page with links to affiliate pages.

Central TX VOAD has a Facebook page. Does a spotlight page on our organizations. Form was discussed so everyone could describe their organization history for use in future member spotlights.

Twitter page: “centexvoad”

Shelby gave an overview of all. Asked people to follow all social media. Send in information on organization if you haven't already.

**Donations Mgmt:** Tim gave an update on Right Gift. They will be using the Matrix and could be organizing some meeting with different organizations.

**Education and Training – Matt Bisacca:**

ReDiscovery Online Class: <http://www.redd.tamu.edu/rediscovery>

April 26-27 - Event for installing fire alarms, sponsored by American Red Cross.

**Emotional and Spiritual Care – Alan Ford**

- Have had a couple of meetings.
- Exploring how to better cooperate with LTR groups to provide care after a disaster.
- How we can better coordinate with government agencies to find out expectations.
- Next Meeting is next Thursday at 2 pm here at DRTx.
- Someone is coming to speak from State VOAD soon, we hope.
- Could use a couple more participants if anyone is interested.
- Ed Sackett: National Team from Presbytery will fly in to do training, if needed.
- Alan – may do a training of “Care for the Caregiver.”

**Membership – Cathy Norman:**

- At April membership, we typically review membership status. Have a list of full “members” – will complete the list based on the new Bylaws. Will present in June.
- Cathy noted that Salvation Army was back in attendance.
- DART Williamson County was here and introduced themselves. ICS and CERT Training. Bringing in VOAD partners under them as mutual aid partners. May 7<sup>th</sup> – exercises coming up. Need volunteers to play a role player.

**Announcements:**

Ed Sackett – Mission Presbytery – creating a disaster preparedness facility where they will be growing their capability of responding to disasters. Can take in shower units. Have a shower unit they can deploy quickly. Will be bringing in generators, chainsaws and other things to respond. Will respond anywhere in the state.

**TBM disaster relief training** – Crestview Baptist May 3 and 4. Let them know if you are coming so they can have enough handouts.

**Annie Harton – TARG - GAVA:** Go Austin Vamos Austin. Organization working to improve the health of communities in 78744 and 78745. Culvert got stopped up with trash from October rains. It has alerted them to preparedness. Having a meeting on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Will be held in Dove Springs area. Let her know if you are interested in attending.

**Shay Mooney - 211:** 211 is a statewide help line to connect to organizations to receive help. 311 is city services – example: loose dogs, etc. Gave a brief overview of their services.

**Organization Updates** - What is the procedure to update our representatives in the VOAD distribution list? Give to Sara and Cathy.

Lots of changes nationally and statewide in terms of disaster management. In June we will begin having a speaker at our meetings. Possible examples:

- Review of passed Legislative Bills
- FEMA – primer on individual assistance and public assistance
- Local weather forecaster to talk about Hurricanes.
- Preparedness
- National Weather Service resources – NWS Chat.
- If you have other ideas, let Dan know.

Dan thanked everyone for coming.

Meeting adjourned: 11:52 am.

Next meeting: June 13<sup>th</sup>.